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the option of the Publisher.

ADVERTISEMENTS inserted on the usual terms,
the proprietor not being accountable for any error in
any advertisement beyond the amount charged for it.
Communications, and letters on business must be
addressed to the publisher, Postpaid.

THE subscriber hereby gives public notice to all concerned,
that he has been duly appointed and taken upon himself the trust
of Administrator on the estate of

JAMES M. BUCK,

late of Paris in the county of Oxford, Physician, deceased, by
giving bond as the law directs. He therefore requests all persons
interested in the said deceased's estate to make immediate
payment; and those who have any demands thereon, to exhibit
the same in

SIMEON NORTON,

Paris, Nov. 29, 1836.

At a Court of Probate held at Paris, within and for the
County of Oxford, on the twenty-ninth day of November
in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty-six.
The petition of Martha Parrie, administratrix of the estate
of James Parrie, late of Hebron, in said county deceased,
representing that the personal estate of said deceased is not
sufficient to pay the said debts, which he owed at the time of his
death by the sum of eight hundred and seventy-five dollars and
praying for a license to sell and convey so much of the real estate
of said deceased as may be necessary for the payment of said
debts and incidental charges:

Ordered,
That the petitioner give notice thereof to the heirs of said
deceased and to all persons interested in said estate, by causing a
copy of this order to be published three weeks successively, that
they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Paris in said
County on the first Tuesday of January next, at ten o'clock A.
M., and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said
petition should not be granted.

STEPHEN EMERY, Judge.

Copy, Attest—Joseph G. Cole, Register.

At a Court of Probate held at Paris, within and for the
County of Oxford, on the twenty-ninth day of November
in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty-six.
The petition of William Chambliss, late of Hebron, in said county deceased,
representing that the personal estate of said deceased is not
sufficient to pay the said debts, which he owed at the time of his
death by the sum of eight hundred and seventy-five dollars and
praying for a license to sell and convey so much of the real estate
of said deceased as may be necessary for the payment of said
debts and incidental charges:

Ordered,
That the petitioner give notice thereof to the heirs of said
deceased and to all persons interested in said estate, by causing a
copy of this order to be published three weeks successively, that
they may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Paris in said
County on the first Tuesday of January next, at ten o'clock A.
M., and show cause, if any they have, why the prayer of said
petition should not be granted.

STEPHEN EMERY, Judge.

Copy, Attest—Joseph G. Cole, Register.

At a Court of Probate held at Paris, within and for the
County of Oxford, on the twenty-ninth day of November
in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty-six.
The petition of Thomas L. Davis, Administrator of the estate of
Thomas Davis late of Turner in said county, deceased, having
presented his second account of administration of the estate of
said deceased,

Ordered,
That the said Administrator give notice to all persons interested
by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks
successively in the Oxford Democrat printed at Paris, that they
may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Paris in said
County, on the first Tuesday of January next, at ten o'clock
in the forenoon, and show cause if any they have, why the same
should not be allowed.

STEPHEN EMERY, Judge.

Copy, Attest—Joseph G. Cole, Register.

At a Court of Probate held at Paris, within and for the
County of Oxford, on the twenty-ninth day of November
in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty-six.
The petition of Martha Parrie, administratrix of the estate
of James Parrie, late of Hebron, in said county deceased, having
presented her second account of administration of the estate of
said deceased,

Ordered,
That the said Administrator give notice to all persons interested
by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks
successively in the Oxford Democrat printed at Paris, that they
may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Paris in said
County, on the first Tuesday of January next, at ten o'clock
in the forenoon, and show cause if any they have, why the same
should not be allowed.

STEPHEN EMERY, Judge.

Copy, Attest—Joseph G. Cole, Register.

THE subscriber hereby gives public notice to all concerned,
that he has been duly appointed and taken upon himself the trust
of Administrator on the estate of

BETSEY BRADFORD,

late of Turner, in the county of Oxford, deceased, by giving
bond as the law directs. He therefore requests all persons who
are indebted to the said deceased's estate to make immediate
payment; and those who have any demands thereon, to exhibit
the same in

STEPHEN BRADFORD,

Turner, Nov. 29, 1836.

At a Court of Probate held at Paris, within and for the
County of Oxford, on the twenty-second day of November
in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty-six.
The petition of John Jameson, Administrator of the estate of
Richard Smith, late of Hebron, in said county, deceased, having
presented his first account of administration of the estate of said
deceased, and also his own private account against said estate,

Ordered,
That the said Administrator give notice to all persons interested
by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks
successively in the Oxford Democrat printed at Paris, that they
may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Paris in said
County, on the first Tuesday of January next, at ten o'clock
in the forenoon, and show cause if any they have, why the same
should not be allowed.

STEPHEN EMERY, Judge.

Copy, Attest—Joseph G. Cole, Register.

At a Court of Probate held at Paris, within and for the
County of Oxford, on the twenty-second day of November
in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and thirty-six.
The petition of Catherine Butterfield, named Executrix, in a
certain instrument purporting to be the last will and testa-
ment of John Butterfield, late of Paris in said county, deceased,
having presented the same for probate:

Ordered,
That the said Executrix give notice to all persons interested
by causing a copy of this order to be published three weeks
successively in the Oxford Democrat printed at Paris, that they
may appear at a Probate Court to be held at Paris in said
County, on the first Tuesday of January next, at ten o'clock
in the forenoon, and show cause if any they have, why the said in-
strument should not be proved, approved, and allowed as the last
will and testament of said deceased.

STEPHEN EMERY, Judge.

Copy, Attest—Joseph G. Cole, Register.

Commissioners' Notice.

THE subscribers having been appointed by the Judge
of Probate for the County of Oxford, Commissioners on
the estate of

JOSEPH LOTHROP,

late of Buckfield, in said county deceased, represent-
ing insolvent, hereby give notice that six months from
this date has been allowed to creditors for exhibiting and
proving their claims; and that we shall attend for that
purpose at the house of Z. Long in Buckfield, on the
second Mondays of January and May next.

ZADOC LONG,

ELIJAH JORDAN,

[From the Bangor Mechanic and Farmer.

To the Editor of the Mechanic and Farmer:

You may perhaps remember that soon after the ded-
ication of Mount Hope, in July last, I informed you that
I had in my possession some stanzas, composed by a lady
of this city, which I intended to offer for publication.

I am forcibly and sadly reminded of that promise by the
sudden decease of the author. Miss MARY PRENTISS,
daughter of Dea Caleb Prentiss, of Paris, Me., died in
Bangor, on the 16th inst. after a short illness. I will
not attempt a formal newspaper eulogium on her char-
acter. To those who knew her, who had witnessed her

life of unobtrusive usefulness and conscientious discharge
of duty, who had been blessed with her friendship and
her love, such a eulogium is needless, and by the rest of
the world it would be unheeded. Her friends will long
remember her as one who, without adventitious and ac-
cidental advantages, had won her way to their hearts
and their affections by the vigor and discipline of her
mind, by the gentle kindness and disinterestedness of

her life, by an almost excessive sensibility, tempered and
subdued, that she might never shrink from duty, and an
expansive benevolence that embraced the whole human
family, and a remarkable absence of that selfishness
which regulates and calculates its actions with a single
reference to individual and personal comfort.

At the time above alluded to—the dedication of Mount
Hope—she was deeply interested in the object and the
occasion, and in a note to a friend enclosing the annexed
lines, she says: "Ever since I heard of the arrange-
ments for the dedication at Mount Hope, I have fancied
myself dead and buried there. I send you the fruit of
my strange imagination." At this period, and until a
short period before her death, she enjoyed excellent and
uninterrupted health. There is something in the lines
and the thought, and that mysterious and undefinable
presentiment, that warning of the spirit, that far reach-
ing vision, dim and indistinct, yet almost real, which
we sometimes fancy is vouchsafed to the pure in heart,

as they approach near to the spirit land.

"I hear a voice ye cannot hear,
I see a land ye cannot see,
Which beckons me away."

A SPIRIT AT MOUNT HOPE.

I am no more a child of earth,
My spirit from its clay has fled;
And yet I linger round the spot
Where they have made my low, last bed.

The strong, deep wish to be beloved,
Has not departed with my breath:
It had its origin in heaven,
And was too pure to yield to death.

I see the tears the mourners shed,
I catch the murmur of their sighs,
And through their long and weary days
I watch them with my spirit eyes.

My home is in a better world—
Of ceaseless bloom, and cloudless light;
And the soiled robe I wore below,
Is changed for one of spotless white.

Deck then my grave with earth's frail flowers,
And teach the mourning trees to bend;
But do not water them with tears—
Plume the soul's pinions to ascend.

If it is bliss, even here to mount,
Where you must wear the heavy chain,
Which checks you in your highest flight,
And drags you to the earth again—

Think of the soul, with nought to clog,
With nought to dim its eagle sight,
Forever drinking in new joy,
Forever catching some new light.

If this dark stream is beautiful,
Which waters but an earthly clod,
Think what must be that purer one
Which sparkles from the throne of God!

And if this canopy is rich
Which summer in its bounty weaves—
Think what must be those evergreens
That bear such gleaming in their leaves!

Oh! dry your tears—no longer weep—
The grave is not a gloomy place;
Religion sheds a radiant
Which every lingering shade should chase.

Beneath those venerable oaks, in the quiet and repose
of that resting place of the dead, her mortal remains are
deposited, and her pure spirit has gone onward to that
land of "ceaseless bloom and cloudless light," she so
beautifully and feelingly described. And if her spirit
eyes can look backward upon earth, she sees that the
tears of many mothers have watered that grave, and
that the memory of her good deeds and her spotless ex-
ample will not pass away.

From the Philadelphia Saturday News and Literary Gazette.

RIPTON RUMSEY.

A WATER SKEIN.

Selecting a single incident from the many,
which it is natural to suppose might have been
found by the aid of a diving bell on such a night,
it becomes necessary to fish up Ripton Rumsey,
who happened to be abroad on that occasion,

as he is upon all occasions, when left to
consult his own wishes. Where Ripton had
been in the early part of the evening, it would
not have been easy either for himself or any
one else to tell. It is, therefore, fair to infer
that, distributing his attentions, he had been as
usual "about in spots." The fact is he has a
hobby, which like many hobbies, is apt to throw
his rider. Although temperately disposed, of
such is the inquiring nature of his philosophic
spirit, that, with a view, perhaps, to the ultimate
benefit of the human race, he is continually ex-
perimenting as to the effects of alcoholic stimu-
lants upon the human frame. It is probable,
therefore, that on this occasion, having "imbibed
too much of the enemy," neat as imported,
he had walked forth to qualify it by a stroll in
the rain. This, however, is irrelevant. Where
he was, is the point at issue.

The rain came down heavier than ever. A
solitary watchman, more amphibious than his
race in general, was seen wending his way thro'
the puddles, thinking, if he thought at all, of
the discomforts of those whom Noah left be-
hind, and of that happy provision of nature,
which renders a wet back fatal to none but
young goslings. Dodging between drops was
out of the question; so he strode manfully on-
ward, until he stumbled over something, which
lay like a lion, or a bundle of wet clothing, in
his path.

"Why, hello! what do you call this when it's
biled and the skin's tuck off?" said the Charley,
recovering himself and giving the obstruction a
thrust with his foot. "What's this, without in-
gins?" continued he, in that metaphorical man-
ner peculiar to Charleys, when they ask for
naked truths and uncooked facts.

It was Ripton Rumsey—in that independent
condition, which places men beyond the control
of circumstances, enabling them to sleep quietly
either on the pavement, or on the track of a
well travelled railroad, and to repose in despite
of rain, thunder, a gnawing conscience, or the
fear of a locomotive. It was Ripton Rumsey,
saved from being floated away, solely by the
saturated condition of both his internal and ex-
ternal man.

"It's a man!" remarked the Charley, holding
to a tree with his right hand as he curiously
yet cautiously pawed Ripton with his left foot.

"It's a man, who's turned in outside of the door,
and is taking a snooze on the cold water prin-
ciple—Well, I say, neighbor, jist in a friendly
way," added the Charley, giving Ripton a pro-
digious kick as an evidence of his amicable feel-
ing, "If you don't get up, you'll ketch a naguee,
or the collar and fix you. Get up."

Ripton's condition, as before hinted, was be-
yond the ordinary impulses to human action,
and he, therefore, endured several severe digs
with the foot aforesaid, without uttering more
than a deep toned grunt; but at last the sharp
corner of the boot coming in contact with his
ribs, he suddenly turned over the graceful atti-
tude of a frog, and struck out vigorously. Like
Giovanni's faithful squire, he proved himself an
adept at swimming on land. He "handled"
his arms and legs with such skill and dexterity,
that before his progress could be arrested, he
was on the curbstone. The next instant heard
him plunge into the swollen and roaring kennel,
and with his head sticking above water, he
buffeted the waves with a heart of contro-
versy.

"The boat's blowed up, and them that ain't
biled are all overboard!" spluttered the swim-
mer as he dashed the waters about, and seemed
almost strangled with the quantities which en-
tered the hole in his head entitled a mouth,
which was sadly unacquainted with undistilled
fluids—"Strike out or you're gone chickens!—
them as can't swim must tread water, and them
as can't tread water, must go to Davy Jones!

Let go my leg! Every man for himself!—
Phre-e-e bro-o-o! Whose got some spatter-
docks!"

The watch looked on in silent admiration;
but finding that the aquatic gentleman did not
make much headway, and that a probability ex-
isted of his going out of the world in soundings
and by water, a way evidently not in conformity
to his desires, the benevolent guardian of the
night thought proper to interpose; and bend-
ing himself to the work, at last succeeded in
re-establishing Ripton Rumsey on the curb-
stone.

"Ha!" said Ripton, after gasping a few min-
utes, and wringing the water from his face;—
"You've saved me, and you'll be put in the
newspapers for it, by way of a solid reward."

Jist in time—I'd been down twyst, and if I'd
gone again Ripton Rumsey would a staid there
—once more and the last. Only think—my
eye, how the shades and the catnies would a
chawed me up! Getting drowned aint no fun,
and after you're drowned its vus. My suffer-
ings what I had, and my sufferings what I
had, is enough to make a feller cry, so wet
aint got no hankercher, and my sleeve's so wet
it won't wipe good."

"Yes, young'un," said the Charley; "Spos-
ing the fishes had been betting on election,
they'd invited the other fishes to eat you for
oyster suppers,—so much majority for sturgeon-
nose,—why not? If we ketch the fishes, we
eat them, and if they ketch us, they eat us—
bite all round."

But the storm again began to howl, and as
Ripton evidently did not understand the ration-
ale of the argument, the watchman lost his po-
etic sympathy for the Jonah of the gutters.
Even had he heard the fishes calling for "Rip-
ton Rumseys fried," "Ripton Rumseys stew-
ed," or "Ripton Rumseys on a chafing dish,"
he would have felt indifferent about the matter,
and if asked how he would take him, would un-
doubtedly have said "Ripton Rumsey on a
wheelbarrow."

"You must go to the watch house."

"What fur, must I? Fetch along the Hum-
ano's Society's apparatus for the recovery of
drowned individuals—them's what I want—
I'm water logged."

Bringing us one of the largest and boldest
of notions advanced, followed with a correspon-
ding action. Times like the present, places
like the plumb-line and rule to these modern no-
tions, and they are found deficient and unsta-

ing situation—I want the goodies—wrap me in
a hot blanket and lay me by the fire—put hot
bricks to my feet; fill me up with hot toddy,
and then go away. That's the scientific touch,
and it's the only way I'm to be brung to, be-
cause when I'm drowned I'm a hard case."

The Charley promised all, if Ripton would
accompany him. The soft delusion was be-
lieved, and the "hard case" was lodged in the
receptacle for such as he, where, before he dis-
covered the deception, he fell into a profound
slumber, which lasted till morning. The ex-
amination was as follows:

"Where do you live?"

"I'm no ways particular—jist where its cheap-
est and most convenient. The cheapest kind
of living, according to my notion, is when its
pretty good, and don't cost nothing. In winter,
the Alms House is not sh-v, and if you'll give
us a call, you'll find me there when the snow's
on the ground. But when nature smiles and
the grass is green, I'm out like a hoppergrass.

The fact is my constitution isn't none of the
strongest; and work hurts my system; so I go
about doing little jobs for a flip or a levy, so's
to get my camp ten, and butters regular—any-
thing for a decent living, if it don't tire a feller.

But hang the city—rural felicity and no
Charleys is the thing after all—pumpkins, cab-
bages and apple whiskey is always good for a
weakly constitution and a man of an elevated
turn of mind."

"Well, I'll send you to Moyamensing Prison
—quite rural."

The sound of that awful word struck terror
to the very marrow of Ripton. Like the rest
of his class, while bearing his soul in his stom-
ach, he carries his heart at the end of his nose,
and to his heart rushed the blood from every
part of his frame, until the beacon blazed with
a lurid glare, and the bystanders apprehended
apoplexy. The rudder of his countenance
grew to such a size that there was no mistaking
the leading feature of the case. To see before
him, Ripton was compelled to squint direfully,
and as the beggar in Gil Blas did his carbine,
he found himself under the necessity of resting
his tremendous proboscis on the clerk's desk,
while cocking his eye at his honor.

"Miamensin!" stammered Ripton—"Och,
och! now don't! that's a clever feller. Arch
Street was all well enough—plenty of company
and conversation to improve a chap. But Mi-
amensin—scandalous! Why they clap you
right into a bag as soon as you get inside the
door, jist as if they'd brought you by the busi-
ness, and then, by way of finishing your educa-
tion, they lug you along, and empty you into a
room where you never see nothing nor nobody.

It's jist wasting a man—I'm bagged if I go to
Miamensin!—I'd rather be in the Menagery,
and be stirred up with a long pole twenty times
a day, so as to cause me for to growl to amuse
the company. I aint potatoes to be put into a
bag—blow the bag!"

"There's no help for it, Ripton; you are a
vagrant, and must be taken care of."

"That's what I like; but bagging a man is
no sort of a way of taking care of him, unless
he's a dead robin, or a shot tom-tit. As for be-
ing a vagrom, its all owing to my weakly con-
stitution, and because I can't have my bitters
and catnip tea regular. But if it's the law,
here's at you.—Being a judge, or a mayor, or
any thing of that sort's easy done, without cat-
nip tea; it dont hurt your hands, or strain your
back; jist try a spell at smashing stones, or
piling logs, and you'd learn what's what without
being put in a bag."

"Never mind," said Ripton, as he was con-
ducted from the office, "every thing goes round
in this world. Perhaps I'll be stuck up some
day on a bench to ladle out law to the loafers.
Who knows? Then let me have a bolt of some
of the chaps that made Miamensin. I'd ladle
out the law to 'em so hot, they'd not send their
plates for more soup in a hurry. I'd have a
whole bucketful of catnip tea alongside, and the
way they'd ketch thirty days, and thirty days a
top of that, would make 'em grin like chesny
cats. First I'd bag all the Charleys, and then
I'd bag all the Mayors, and sew 'em up."

[From the Mechanic and Farmer.]

THE TIMES.—Much may be said on the
present unexampled state of the times—in point-
ing out its causes, and making suggestions to
provide against its effects. We cannot occupy
the whole of this ground, but will only allude to
its probable effects upon the farmers and me-
chanics. The first of these have for a few
years seen men going on with rail road speed,
to wealth—have found men nominally gaining
so much faster than themselves, that many have
become dissatisfied, and instead of regularly
pursuing their quiet and sure business, have ab-
andoned it for some easier and quicker meth-
od of arriving at the end of their hopes.

The mechanic too, in many—too many—instances,
has forsaken his healthy and certain employ-
ment to embark in enterprises of uncertain, if
not doubtful result. The old and homely way,
as it has been thought, of getting a living which
our fathers pursued, has been rejected, and
higher expectations raised, and loftier and bold-
er notions advanced, followed with a correspon-
ding action. Times like the present, places
like the plumb-line and rule to these modern no-
tions, and they are found deficient and unsta-

ble—too weak deceptive to be relied upon;
and the consequence is, that men who, in their
airy visions, have considered themselves inde-
pendent, now find they are loaded and tram-
melled, and their situation unpleasant and pre-
carious.

The uneasiness and discontent among farm-
ers and mechanics, by this operation of busi-
ness, this change of the times will in a great
measure be done away. Those who have for-
saken the peaceful paths of agriculture, will
now return to them with renewed vigor and de-
light—happy, that Infinite Wisdom has provid-
ed suitable means for men to obtain a living,
and to the enjoyment of its greatest blessings.

Instead of seeking bonds, and stocks, and specu-
lations, the busy mind of man will ponder over
the numerous facts constantly coming to light,
—of the formation of the earth—the habits of
the plants, and the modes of increasing their
growth, and multiplying the number of those
which are useful in the family and for stock.

The mode of living, too, we may expect will
be improved, and the simple and cheap, always
the best promoters of health, will take the place
of the luxurious and expensive.

Dress, too, will undoubtedly undergo some
modifications—and the comfortable and appro-
priate be received back to its proper place; too
long occupied by the showy and the useless.—
The locomotive propensities which have
seemed to beset all ages and sexes, will be
more or less limited, and business and useful-
ness gain a foot hold, where curiosity and ex-
citement have held undisputed sway.

We do not expect that our whole race will in
a day, or a year, or ever, go back to the simple
habits and enjoyments of pastoral life; but we
do expect that many of those, who have thought
that the whole business of life was to speculate
and get rich, will find that they are mistaken,
and this returning reason will assist in making
the improvements in society, and its mode of
living, which I have named.

It is always more comfortable to draw pleas-
ant reflection from seasons of darkness than to
give up in despair. We do not aim, however,
to present amusing and quieting speculations,
or show a pleasing and poetical salvation from
threatened danger. Full well do we know, that
in retracing the steps in which society has fol-
lowed a blind guide, it must struggle against so-
ber realities, which admit of no illusion—they
are inevitable; and nothing but a strong and
honest conviction of this necessity, and its ulti-
mate triumphant results, will be sufficient to
bear their hearts up to endure so hard a con-
test.

In these changes, which must follow a con-
tinuation of the present times, we shall find the
verification of the story which all history reads
to us: That those who accept the conditions of
their destiny in meekness and wisdom, will be
improved and benefited; while those who blind
themselves to its teachings, who despise the con-
ditions offered, and obstinately pursue the course
they have begun, will find the accumulation of
evils and privations too great, and sink down
into mental and physical sloth, if not degradation
and infamy.

Those who fear the most, and most deeply
dread the coming change, will fare the worse;
for they, of all others, will be found the least
prepared for it.

Under considerations such as we have nam-
ed, the present times present us with something
better than entire gloomy anticipations; it in-
structs us in a knowledge of ourselves—it reads
us a useful lesson—that we follow not too close-
ly the popular path, let it promise ever so rich
an harvest. Let us all, then, go back to the
useful and necessary as fast as possible, and re-
solve to be contented, in the steady pursuit of
productive labor—to obtain our living from the
earth, rather than catch it from the clouds.

There was an Italian buffo-dancer, or Scar-
amouch, who was a great favorite with George
the Third—I mean Delphin. Like old Joe
Munden, he never forgot his benefit night, and
thought that taking his tickets was the strongest
proof of friendship you could give. A grand
fete was given at Windsor, in the great Park;
marques and moveable theatres were erected;
in one of them a ballet dance was performed
in the presence of the king, queen, and all the
princes and princesses. Delphin, the royal fa-
vorite, was the hero of the night; in the busi-
ness of the scene, it was necessary to fire a pis-
tol at the buffo, who unluckily received the wad-
ding in his face. His hat and wig flew off; he
jumped about in apparent agony, and roared
from pain. The audience were delighted, and
warmly applauded such excellent acting. Del-
phin went to the corner of the stage, close to the
royal box, and looking the king and queen in
the face, said in a piteous accent—"Oh lord,
oh lord, oh lord! vat I sall do?—it no sham,
meestar king, by Got; look me face—al blot
—vat I do? Me eye—vero me eye!—oh, lord!
Brandee—nobody gif me brandee!—meestar
king, vero you brandee?" The Prince of Wales
left the royal box, and kindly interested him-
self in the affair, telling Delphin that he was
sorry for the accident. "You sorree? I ver
sorree. I come here—play Jack Foul—please
your papa—your mama—shoot out all me eye
—oh, lord!" "Well, well, Delphin, we will have
you looked after; and if we can do any thing

anticipation of the pressure which has since prevailed our Eastern as well as the European commercial cities. By preventing the extension of the credit system, it necessarily cut off the means of speculation, and retarded its progress in monopolizing the most valuable of the public lands. It has tended to save the new States from a non-resident proprietorship, one of the greatest obstacles to the advancement of a new country, and the prosperity of an old one. It has greatly tended to keep open the public lands, for entry by emigrants at the Government prices, instead of their being compelled to purchase of speculators at double or triple prices. And it is conveying into the interior large sums in silver and gold, there to enter permanently into the currency of the country, and place it on a firmer foundation. It is confidently believed that the country will find in the motives which induced that order, and the happy consequences which will have ensued, much to commend, and nothing to condemn. It remains for Congress, if they approve the policy which dictated this order, to follow it up in its various bearings. Much good, in my judgment, would be produced by prohibiting sales of the public lands, except to actual settlers, at a reasonable reduction of price, and to limit the quantity which shall be sold to them. Although it is believed that the General Government never ought to receive any thing but the constitutional currency in exchange for the public lands, that point would be of less importance if the lands were sold for immediate settlement and cultivation. Indeed there is scarcely a mischief arising out of our present land system including the accumulating surplus of revenue, which would not be remedied at once by a restriction on land sales to actual settlers, and the prohibition of advances to the country in general, and to the new States in particular, which cannot fail to receive the most profound consideration of Congress.

Experience continues to confirm the expectations entertained as to the capacity of the State Banks to perform the duties of fiscal agents for the government, at the time of the removal of the deposits. As was alleged by the advocates of the U. S. Bank, that the State Banks, wherever they might be the regulations of the Treasury Department, could not make the transfers required by the Government, or negotiate the domestic exchange of the country. It is now well ascertained that the real domestic exchange performed by the State Banks, on the basis which has been established, is not only as prompt and as safe as that of the U. S. Bank and its twenty-five branches, were at least one third less than those of the deposit banks for an equal period of time; and if a comparison be instituted between the amounts of services rendered by these institutions, on the one hand, and the U. S. Bank, on the other, it will be found that the latter has been using by the advocates of the United States Bank in estimating what they consider the domestic exchanges transacted by it, the result will still be more favorable to the deposit banks.

The whole amount of public money transferred to the Bank of the United States in 1832, was \$16,000,000. The amount transferred and actually paid by the deposit banks in the year ending the 31st of October last, was \$33,319,899; the amount transferred and paid between that period and the 31st of November, \$5,299,000, and the amount of transfer warrant outstanding on that day was \$14,450,000; making an aggregate of \$52,068,899. These enormous sums of money first transacted have been transferred with the greatest promptitude and regularity; and the rate at which exchanges have been negotiated, previously to the passage of the deposit act, were generally below the rate charged by the Bank of the United States. Independently of the services, which are far greater than those rendered by the U. S. Bank and its twenty-five branches, a number of the deposit Banks have, with a commendable zeal to aid in the improvement of the currency, imported from abroad, at their own expense, large sums of the precious metals for coinage and circulation.

In the same manner have nearly all the predictions turned out in respect to the effect of the removal of the deposits—a step unquestionably necessary to prevent the evils which it was foreseen the bank itself would endeavor to create, in a final struggle to procure a renewal of its charter. It may be thus, too, in some degree, with the further steps which may be taken to prevent the excessive issue of other bank paper, but it is to be hoped that nothing will now detain the Federal and State authorities from the firm and vigorous performance of their duties to themselves and to the people in that respect.

In reducing the revenue to the wants of the Government, your particular attention is invited to those articles which constitute necessities of life. The duty on salt was laid as a war tax, and was no doubt continued to assist in providing for the payment of the war debt. There is no article the release of which from taxation would be felt so generally, and so beneficially. To this may be added all kinds of fuel and provisions. Justice and benevolence unite in favor of releasing the poor of our cities from burdens which are not necessary to the support of our Government, and tend only to increase the wants of the destitute.

It will be seen by the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, and the accompanying documents, that the Bank of the United States has made no payment on account of the stock held by the Government in that institution, although urged to pay any portion which might suit its convenience, and that it has given no information when payment may be expected. Nor, although repeatedly requested, has it furnished the information in relation to its condition, which Congress authorized the Secretary to collect at their last session, such measures as are within the power of the Executive, have been taken to ascertain the value of the stock, and procure the payment as early as possible.

The conduct and present condition of that bank, and the great amount of capital vested in it by the United States, require your careful attention. Its charter expired on the 3d day of March last, and it has now no power but that given in the 21st section, "to use the corporate name, style, and capacity for the purpose of suits for the final settlement and liquidation of the affairs and accounts of the corporation, and for the sale and disposition of their estate, real, personal and mixed, but not for any other purpose, or in any other manner whatsoever, nor for a period exceeding two years after the expiration of the said term of incorporation."

Before the expiration of the charter, the stockholders of the bank obtained an act as incorporation from the Legislature of Pennsylvania, extending only the United States. Instead of proceeding to wind up their concerns, and pay over to the United States the amount due on account of the stock held by them, the president and directors of the old bank appear to have transferred the books, papers, notes, obligations, and most or all of its property to this new corporation, which entered upon business as a continuation of the old concern.

Amongst other acts of questionable validity, the notes of the expired corporation are known to have been used as its own, and again put in circulation. That the old bank had no right to issue or resell its notes after the expiration of its charter, cannot be denied, and that it could not confer any such right on its substitute any more than exercise it itself, is equally plain. In law and honesty, the notes of the bank in circulation, at the expiration of its charter, should have been called in by public advertisement, paid up as presented, and together with those on hand, cancelled and destroyed. Their re-issue is sanctioned by no law, and warranted purpose. Their report may be expected during your present session.

If the United States be responsible in their stock for the payment of these notes, their re-issue, by new corporation, for their own profit, is a fraud on the Government. If the United States be not responsible, then there is no legal responsibility in any quarter, and it is a fraud on the country. They are the redeemed notes of a dissolved partnership, but, contrary to the wishes of the retiring partner, and without his consent, are again re-issued and circulated.

It is the high and peculiar duty of Congress to decide whether any further legislation be necessary for the security of the large amount of public property now held and in use by the new bank, and for vindicating the rights of the Government, and compelling a speedy and honest settlement with all the creditors of the old bank, public and private, or whether the subject shall be left to the power now possessed by the Executive and Judiciary. It remains to be seen whether the persons, who, as managers of the old bank, undertook to control the Government, retained the public dividends, shut their doors upon a committee of the House of Representatives and filled the country with panic to accomplish their own sinister objects, may now, as managers of a new bank, continue with impunity to flood the country with a spurious currency, use the seven millions of Government stock for their own benefit, and refuse to the United States all information as to the present condition of their own property, and the prospect of recovering it into their own possession.

The lessons taught by the Bank of the United States cannot well be lost upon the American people. They will take care never again to place so tremendous a power in irresponsible hands, and it will be fortunate if they seriously consider the consequences which are likely to result on a smaller scale from the facility with which corporate powers are granted by their State Government.

It is believed that the law of the last session regulating the deposit banks, operates seriously and unjustly upon them in many respects; and it is hoped that Congress, on proper representation, will adopt the modifications which are necessary to prevent the consequence.

The report of the Secretary of War at interim, and the accompanying documents, all which are herewith laid before you, will give you a full view of the diversified and important operations of that Department during the past year.

The military movements rendered necessary by the aggressions of the hostile portions of the Seminole and Creek tribes of Indians, and by other circumstances, have required the active employment of nearly our whole regular force, including the marine corps, and of large bodies of militia and volunteers. With all these events, so far as they were known at the seat of Government before the termination of your last session, you are already acquainted; and it is therefore only needful in this place to lay before you a brief summary of what has since occurred. The War with the Seminoles, during the Summer, was, on our part, chiefly confined to the protection of our frontier settlements from the incursions of the enemy; and as a necessary and important means for the accomplishment of that end, to the maintenance of the posts previously established. In the course of his duty, several actions took place, in which the bravery and discipline of both officers and men were conspicuously displayed, and which I have deemed it proper to notice, in respect to the former, by granting of brevet rank for gallant services in the field. But as the force of the Indians was not so far weakened by these partial successes, as to lead them to submit, and as their savage incursions were frequently repeated, early measures taken for the placing at the disposal of Governor Call, who, as commander in chief of the territorial militia, had been temporarily invested with the command, an ample force, for the purpose of resuming the offensive operations in the most efficient manner, so soon as the season should permit. Major General Jessup was also directed on the conclusion of his duties in the Creek country to repair to Florida and assume the command.

The result of the first movement made by the forces under the direction of Governor Call, in October last, as detailed in the accompanying papers; excited much surprise and disappointment. A full explanation has been required of the causes which led to the failure of that movement, but has not yet been received. In the mean time, as it was feared that the health of Governor Call, who was understood to have suffered much from sickness, would not be adequate to the crisis, and as Major General Jessup was known to have reached Florida, that officer was directed to assume the command, and to prosecute all needful operations with the utmost promptitude and vigor.—From the force at his disposal, and the dispositions he has made and is instructed to make, and from the very efficient measures which it is since ascertained have been taken by Governor Call, there is reason to hope that they will soon be enabled to reduce the enemy to subjection. In the mean time, as you will perceive from the report of the Secretary, there is urgent necessity for further appropriations to suppress their hostilities.

Happily for the interests of humanity, the hostilities of the Creeks were brought to a close soon after your adjournment, without that effusion of blood which at one time was apprehended as inevitable. The unconditional submission of the hostile party was followed by their speedy removal to the country assigned them west of the Mississippi. The inquiry as to alleged frauds in the purchase of the reservations of these Indians, and the cause of their hostilities, requested by the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 1st of July last, to be made by the President, is now going on, through the agency of commissioners appointed for that purpose. Their report may be expected during your present session.

The difficulties apprehended in the Cherokee country have been prevented, and the peace and safety of that region and its vicinity effectually secured, by the timely measures taken by the War Department, and still continued.

The discretionary authority given to General Gaines to cross the Sabine, and to occupy a position as far west as Nacogdoches, in case he should deem such a step necessary to the protection of the frontier, and to the fulfilment of the stipulation contained in our treaty with Mexico, and the movement subsequently made by that officer, have been alluded to in a former part of this message. At the date of latest intelligence from Nacogdoches, our troops were then at that station; but the officer who has succeeded Gen. Gaines has recently been advised that, from the facts known at the seat of Government, there would seem to be no adequate cause for any longer maintaining that position; and he has accordingly instructed, in case the troops were not already withdrawn under the discretionary powers before passed by him, to give the requisite orders for that purpose on the receipt of the instructions, unless he then shall have in his possession such information as shall satisfy him that the maintenance of the post is essential to the protection of our frontiers, and to the due execution of our treaty stipulations, as previously explained to him.

Whilst the necessities existing during the present year, for the service of militia volunteers have furnished new proofs of the patriotism of our fellow citizens, they have also strongly illustrated the importance of an increase in the rank and file of the regular army. The views of this subject submitted by the Secretary of War, in this report, meet my entire concurrence; and are earnestly recommended to the deliberate attention of Congress. In this connection it is also proper to remind you, that the defects in our present militia system are every day rendered more apparent. The duty of making further provisions by law for organizing, arming and disciplining this arm of defence has been so repeatedly presented to Congress by myself and my predecessors, that I deem it sufficient on this occasion to refer to the last annual message, and to former Executive communications in which the subject has been discussed.

It appears from the reports of the officers charged with the mustering into service the volunteers called for under the act of Congress of the last session, that more presented themselves at the place of rendezvous in Tennessee than were sufficient to meet the requisition which had been made by the Secretary of War upon the Governor of that State. This was occasioned by the omission of the Governor to apportion the requisition to the different regiments of militia, so as to obtain the proper number of troops, and no more. It seems but just to the patriotic citizens who repaired to the general rendezvous, under circumstances authorizing them to believe that their services were needed, and would be accepted, that the expenses incurred by them while absent from their homes should be paid by the Government. I accordingly recommend that a law to this effect be passed by Congress, giving them a compensation which will cover their expenses on the march to and from the place of rendezvous, and while there; in connection of which, it will also be proper to make provision for such other equitable claims, growing out of the service of the militia, as may not be embraced in the existing laws. It is necessary, in some cases, to take the property of individuals for public use. Provisions should be made by law for indemnifying the owners, and I would also respectfully suggest whether some provision may not be made, consistently with the principles of our government, for the relief of the sufferers by Indian depredations, or by the operations of our own troops.

No time was lost after the making of the requisite appropriations, in resuming the great national work of completing the unfinished fortifications on our sea board, and of placing them in a proper state of defence. In consequence, however, of the very late day at which those bills were passed, but little progress could be made during the season which has just closed. A very large amount of the moneys granted at your last session, accordingly, remains unexpended; but as the work will again be resumed at the earliest moment in the coming spring, the balance of the existing appropriations, and in several cases which will be laid before you with the proper estimates, further sums for the like objects, may be usefully expended during the next year.

The recommendations of an increase in the Engineer Corps, and for a re-organization of the Topographical Corps, submitted to you in my last annual message, derive additional strength from the great embarrassments experienced during the present year, in those branches of the service, and under which they are now suffering. Several of the most important surveys and constructions directed by recent laws have been suspended in consequence of the want of adequate force in these corps. The like observations may be applied to the Ordnance corps, and the General Staff, the operations of which, as they are now organized, must either be frequently interrupted, or performed by officers taken from the line of the army, to the great prejudice of the service.

For a general view of the condition of the Military Academy, and other branches of the military service not already noticed, as well as for fuller illustrations of those which have been mentioned, I refer you to the accompanying documents; and among the various proposals contained therein for legislative action, I would particularly mention the suggestion of the Secretary of War for the revision of the pay of the army, as entitled to your favorable regard. The national policy, founded alike in inter-

est and humanity, so long and so steadily pursued by this Government, for the removal of the Indian tribes originally settled on this side of the Mississippi, to the west of that river, may be said to have been consummated by the conclusion of the treaty with the Cherokees. The measures taken in the execution of that treaty, and in relation to our Indian affairs generally, will fully appear by referring to the accompanying papers. Without dwelling on the numerous and important topics embraced in them, I again invite your attention to the importance of providing a well digested and comprehensive system for the protection, supervision and improvement of the various tribes now planted in the Indian country.

The suggestions submitted by the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, and enforced by the Secretary, on this subject, and also in regard to the establishment of additional military posts in the Indian country, are entitled to your profound consideration. Both measures are necessary for the double purpose of protecting the Indians from intestine war, and in other respects complying with our engagements to them, and of securing our western frontier against incursions, which otherwise will assuredly be made on it. The best hopes of humanity, in regard to the aboriginal race, the welfare of our rapidly extending settlements, and the honor of the United States, are all deeply involved in the relations existing between this Government and the emigrating tribes. I trust, therefore, that the various matters submitted in the accompanying documents, in respect to those relations, will receive your early and mature deliberations, and that it may issue in the adoption of legislative measures adapted to the circumstances, and duties of the present crises.

You are referred the report of the Secretary of the Navy for a satisfactory view of the operations of the department under his charge, during the present year. In the construction of vessels at the different Navy yards, and in the employment of our ships and squadrons at sea, that branch of the service has been actively and usefully employed. While the situation of our commercial interests in the West Indies required a greater number than usual of armed vessels to be kept on that station, it is gratifying to perceive that the protection due to our commerce in other quarters of the world has not proved insufficient. Every effort has been made to facilitate the equipment of the exploring expedition authorized by the act of the last session, but all the preparation necessary to enable it to sail has not been completed. No means will be spared by the Government to fit out the expedition on a scale corresponding with the liberal appropriation for the purpose, and with the elevated character of the objects which are to be effected by it.

I beg leave to renew the recommendation made in my last annual message, respecting the enlistment of boys in our naval service, and to urge upon your attention the necessity of further appropriations to increase the number of ships afloat, and to enlarge, generally the capacity and force of the navy. The increase of commerce, and our position in regard to the other powers of the world, will always make it our policy and interest to cherish the great naval resources of our country.

The report of the Postmaster General presents a gratifying picture of the condition of the Post Office Department. Its revenues for the year ending the 30th June last, were \$3,393,455 19, showing an increase of revenue over that of the preceding year of \$304,878 53, or more than 18 per cent. The expenditures for the same year were \$2,755,623 76, exhibiting a surplus of \$642,831 43. The Department has been redeemed from embarrassments and debt, has accumulated a surplus exceeding half a million of dollars, has largely extended, and is preparing still farther to extend, the mail service, and recommends a reduction of postage equal to about 20 per cent. It is practising upon the great principle, which should control every branch of our government, of rendering the public the greatest good possible, with the least possible taxation to the people.

The scale of postage suggested by the Postmaster General recommends itself, not only by the reduction it proposes, but by the simplicity of its arrangement, its conformity with the Federal currency, and the improvement it will introduce into the accounts of the Department and its agents.

Your particular attention is invited to the subject of mail contracts with railroad companies. The present laws, providing for the making of contracts, are based upon the presumption that competition among bidders will secure service at a fair price. But on most of the railroad lines, there is no competition in that kind of transportation and advertising is therefore useless. No contract can now be made with them except such as shall be negotiated before the time of offering or afterwards, and the power of the Postmaster General to pay them high prices is practically without limitation. It would be a relief to him, and no doubt would conduce to the public interest, to prescribe, by law, some equitable basis upon which such contracts shall rest, and restrict him by a fixed rule of allowance. Under a liberal act of that sort he would undoubtedly be able to secure the services of most of the railroad companies, and the interest of the department would be thus advanced.

The correspondence between the people of the United States and the European nations, and particularly with the British Islands, has become very extensive, and requires the interposition of Congress to give it security. No obstacle is perceived to an interchange of mails between New York and Liverpool, or other foreign ports, as proposed by the Postmaster General, on the contrary, it promises, by the security it will afford, to facilitate commercial transactions, and give rise to an enlarged inter-

course among the people of different nations, which cannot but have a happy effect. Through the city of New York most of the correspondence between the Canadas and Europe is now carried on, and urgent representations have been received from the head of the Provincial Post Office, asking the interposition of the United States to guard it from the accidents and losses to which it is now subjected. Some legislation appears to be called for, as well by our own interest, as by the comity to the adjoining British provinces.

The expediency of providing a fire proof building for the important books and papers of the Post Office Department, is worthy of consideration. In the present condition of our treasury, it neither necessary nor wise to leave essential public interests exposed to so much danger, when they can so readily be made secure. They are weighty considerations in the location of a new building for the Department, in favor of placing it near the other executive buildings.

The important subject of a survey of the coast, and the manufacture of a standard of weights and measures for different customhouses, have been in progress for some years, under the general direction of the Executive, and the immediate superintendence of a gentleman possessing high scientific attainments. At the last session of Congress, the making of a set of weights & measures for each State in the Union was added to the others by a joint resolution.

The care and correspondence as to all these subjects, have devolved on Treasury Department during the last year. A special report from the Secretary of the Treasury will soon be communicated to Congress, which will show what has been accomplished as to the whole, the number and the compensation of the persons now employed in these duties, and the progress expected to be made during the ensuing year, with a copy of the various correspondence deemed necessary to throw light on the subjects which seem to require additional legislation.

Claims have been made for retrospective allowances in behalf of the superintendent and some of his assistants, which I did not feel justified in granting; other claims have been made for large increases of compensation, which, under all circumstances of the several cases, I declined making without the express sanction of Congress.

In order to obtain that sanction, the subject was at the last session, on my suggestion, and by request of the immediate superintendent, submitted by the Treasury Department to the Committee of Commerce of the House of Representatives. But no legislative action having taken place, the early attention of Congress is now invited to the enactment of some express and detailed provisions in relation to the various claims made for the past, and to the compensation & allowance deemed proper for the future. It is further respectfully recommended that such being the inconvenience of attention to these duties by the Chief Magistrate, and such the great pressure of business on the Treasury Department, the general supervision of the coast survey, and the competition of the weights and measures, if the works are kept uncompleted, should be developed on a board of officers, organized especially for that purpose, or on the Navy Board attached to the Navy Department.

All my experience and reflection confirm the conviction I have so often expressed to Congress, in favor of an amendment of the Constitution, which will prevent, in any event, the election of the President and Vice President of the United States devolving on the House of Representatives and the Senate; and I therefore beg leave again to solicit your attention to the subject. There were various other suggestions in my last annual message, not acted upon, particularly that relating to the want of uniformity in the laws of the District of Columbia, that are deemed worthy of your favorable consideration.

Before concluding this paper, I think it due to the various Executive Departments to bear testimony to their prosperous condition, and to the ability and integrity with which they have been conducted. It has been my aim to enforce in all of them a vigilant and faithful discharge of the public business, and it is gratifying to me to believe that there is no just cause of complaint from any quarter, at the manner in which they have fulfilled the objects of their creation.

I have now finished the observations deemed proper on this, the last occasion I shall have of communicating with the two Houses of Congress at their meeting. I cannot omit an expression of the gratitude which is due to the great body of my fellow citizens, in whose partiality and indulgence I have found encouragement and support in the many difficult and trying scenes through which it has been my lot to pass during my public career. Though deeply sensible that my exertions have not been crowned with a success corresponding to the degree of favor bestowed upon me, I am sure that they will be considered as having been dictated by an earnest desire to promote the good of my country; and I am consoled by the persuasion that whatever errors have been committed will find a corrective in the patriotism and intelligence of those who will succeed me. All that has occurred during my administration is calculated to inspire me with increased confidence in the stability of our institutions; and should I be spared to enter upon that retirement which is so suitable to my age and infirm health, and so much desired by me in other respects, I shall not cease to invoke that beneficent Being to whose providence we are already so signally indebted for the continuance of his blessings on our beloved country.

ANDREW JACKSON
WASHINGTON, December 6, 1836.

